

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The original claims in the parent application were 1 – 15. Claims 8-15 were withdrawn in the parent application and are presented in this application as (in order) claims 50 and 43 - 49.

The specification is amended in several places to correct obvious typographical errors. In addition the term "a-amino" is replaced with " $\alpha$ -amino" and the prefix "amido-" is removed from the description of proton accepting groups so that the specification will be consistent with various amendments to claim 1 suggested by the Examiner.

For convenience of the Examiner, reformatted copy of the specification incorporating all of the amendments referred to in this preliminary amendment as well as a copy of the application as filed in the parent application Serial No. 09/877,957 were presented with the Preliminary Amendment filed November 14, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Berliner', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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